

Categorical Exclusion Documentation
DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2011-0042-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: _Kremmling

Lease/Serial/Case File #COC-58276

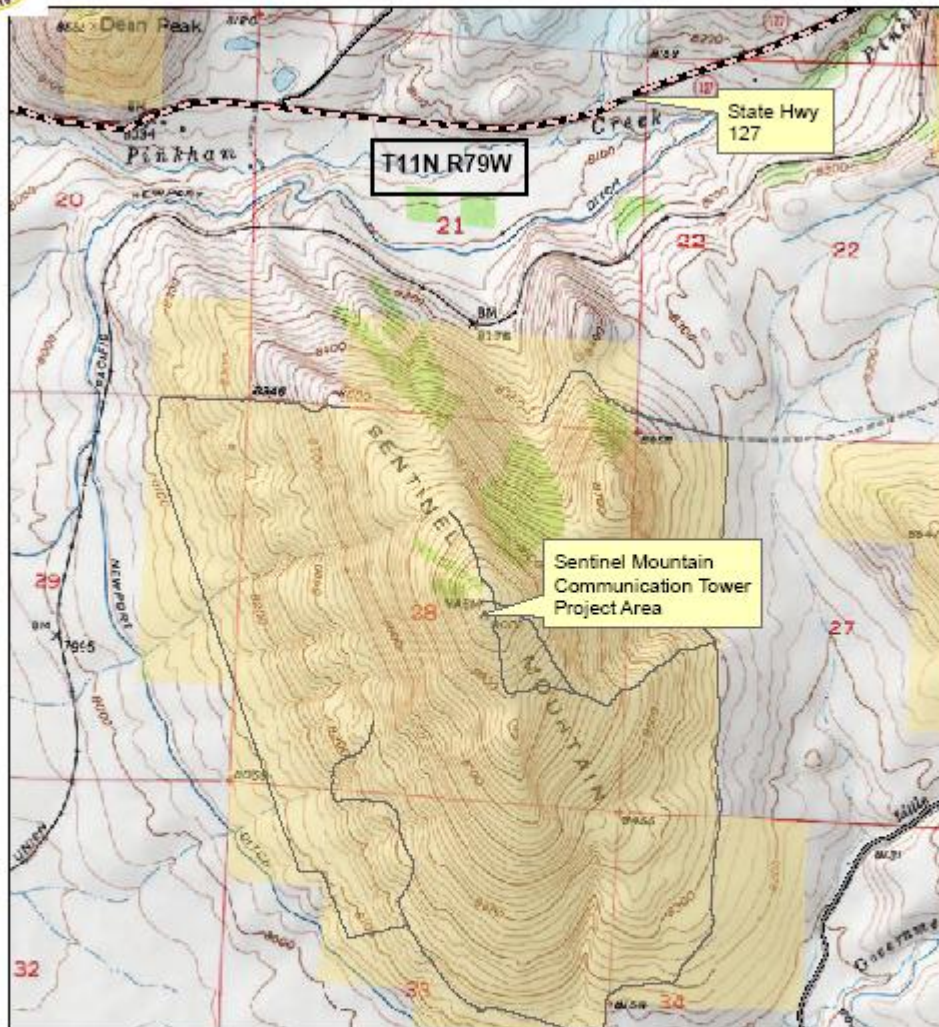
Project Title: Union Telephone ROW Amendment

Location: T. 11N., R. 79W., Section 28, NENWSE, 6th P.M.

Description and Rationale, including any Stipulations: Union Telephone Company has applied to amend their existing right-of-way for a communication tower on Sentinel Mountain in Jackson County. The right-of-way includes an access road, buried power line, tower, generator and propane tank. Union proposes to add a 2x2 foot square panel microwave dish (MW2), and a 6 foot diameter by 60 inch deep microwave dish (MW3). Equipment and dish will be delivered by a 4wd truck and a crane for installation. Time on site for construction will take two days for construction/maintenance crew for each microwave dish. No Temporary work areas are required as this is an existing site and work will be performed within the existing ROW. Otherwise no improvements would be made.



Union Telephone Company Sentinel Mountain COC-58276



Legend
Land Status
Land Status
Bureau of Land Mgt
Division of Wildlife
National Park
US Forest Service
National Wildlife Refuge
Private
State
State Forest



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Annie Sperandio, 10-01-2011
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B. Land Use Plan Conformance

This action conforms to the Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved/Amended: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

The approval of a right-of-way is clearly consistent with the RMP objectives and decisions as follows: Provide the opportunity to utilize public lands for development of facilities which benefit the public, while considering environmental and agency concerns.

C. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act

The action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E., (13): Amendments to existing rights-of-way such as the upgrading of existing facilities which entail no additional disturbances outside the rights-of-way boundary.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate for this action because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 apply (see attached).

I considered the quality of the existing road for the operation that would occur and made a decision that no maintenance other than the temporary items noted above would be required.

D. Signature

_____/s Susan Cassel_____
Susan Cassel
Associate Field Manager

____10/21/2011_____
Date

E. Contact

For more information, contact:

Annie Sperandio, Realty Specialist
Bureau of Land Management
P O Box 81
Kremmling, CO 80459
970-724-3062

Review of Extraordinary Circumstances

The Department of the Interior Manual 516 2.3A (3) requires review of the following “extraordinary circumstances” (516 DM 2 Appendix 2) to determine if an otherwise categorically excluded action would require additional environmental analysis/documentation.

1) *Have significant impacts on public health or safety.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

2) *Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

3) *Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

4) *Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

5) *Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

6) *Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

7) *Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

8) *Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

9) *Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

10) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

11) Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

12) Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

Reviewers:

/s/ Paula Belcher
Soil, Air, Water

10/5/11

/s/Bill B. Wyatt
Cultural Resources

10/5/11

/s/Megan McGuire
Wildlife

10/6/11

/s/Hannah Schechter
Visual Resources

10/5/11

Decision Record for a Categorically Excluded Action

Introduction and Background

Union Telephone Company has applied to amend their existing right-of-way for a communication tower on Sentinel Mountain in Jackson County. The right-of-way includes an access road, buried power line, tower, generator and propane tank. Union proposes to add a 2x2 foot square panel microwave dish (MW2), and a 6 foot diameter by 60 inch deep microwave dish (MW3). Equipment and dish will be delivered by a 4wd truck and a crane for installation. Time on site for construction will take two days for construction/maintenance crew for each microwave dish. No Temporary work areas are required as this is an existing site and work will be performed within the existing ROW. Otherwise no improvements would be made.

Decision and Rationale

I have decided to implement the amendment to add two microwave dishes to the existing tower. This action is needed to provide consistent cellular service and enhance network capability. In addition, I have reviewed the plan conformance statement and have determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required.

Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Policies and Land Use Plans

The action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E., (13): Amendments to existing rights-of-way such as the upgrading of existing facilities which entail no additional disturbances outside the rights-of-way boundary.

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Record of Decision for the Kremmling Resource Management Plan approved in 1984 and updated in 1999, and with the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5-3(a).

Administrative Remedies

Administrative remedies may be available to those who believe they will be adversely affected by this decision. Appeals may be made to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior, Board of Land Appeals (Board) in strict compliance with the regulations in 43 CFR Part 4. Notices of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days after publication of this decision. If a notice of appeal does not include a statement of reasons, such statement must be filed with this office and the Board within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed. The notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region, U.S. Department of Interior, 2800 Cottage Way, E-1712, Sacramento, CA 95825.

_____/s/ Susan Cassel_____
Susan Cassel
Associate Field Manager

_____/10/21/2011_____
Date

